

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

A. Please replace the Abstract beginning on page 26, with the marked-up version below showing the change.

A system and method is disclosed for the secure distribution and consumption of electronic documents using a standard rendering engine. The documents have ~~one or more~~ usage rights associated therewith. A server stores ~~at least one~~ of the documents in computer readable form. A user operates a client having a standard application program including a rendering engine capable of rendering unencrypted documents for viewing ~~is operated by a user~~. The client and the server are coupled by a communications network. A rights management module ~~module~~ receives a request from the client for at least one of the documents on the server ~~from the client~~ and delivers the document and a set of rights associated with the document to the client. A connection module ~~adapted to be~~ attached to the rendering engine receives the set of rights associated with the document. A user interface module ~~adapted to be~~ attached to the rendering engine controls the user's access to the document in accordance with the list of rights for the user associated with the document.